

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: Unknown
Filed: Herewith
Inventor(s): Clois E. Powell

Staminer: Unknown
Group/Art Unit: Unknown
Atty. Dkt. No: 5628-02102

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10

Title: PROCESS FOR

TREATING SMECTITE CLAYS TO FACILITATE EXFOLIATION

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§ § "Express Mail" mailing label number: EL764354328US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: May 4, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents

Box Patent Application

Washington, DC 20231

Darrick Brown

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## **Amendment**

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION", please add the following sentence:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/559,686 which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/131,415.--